THESSALY.

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WASHINGTON.

POLITICS, THE EXHIBITION, TRADE. THE ADMINISTRATION LOSES AN ALLY-A STORY ABOUT MR. HEWITT-THE WAR ENDANGERING

THE PARIS EXHIBITION-GENERAL NEWS. Representative Eugene Hale will make a speech against the Southern policy. A story is afloat in regard to the chapter of unwritten history, to which Mr. Hewitt made a mysteallusion last week. The story is told below and denials of it are presented. Suffrage in Washington is not favored by business men. It is said that the Paris Exposition will be postponed if England and Russia go to war. The export of provisions has been very large of late. Capain Howgate's expedition is approved in France. Postmasters will receive subscriptions to the French statue of Liberty.

MR. HEWITT'S CHAPTER OF HISTORY. A SENSATIONAL STORY AS TO WHAT MR. HEWITT MEANT TO TELL ON WEDNESDAY, BUT DID NOT

IBY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE. WASHINGTON, Feb. 17.-The latest sensational story in connection with the electoral count is to the effect that Mr. Abram S. Hewitt, in an interview which he had with General Grant, on the 3d of December, 1876, learned that the latter would see to it that whoever might be declared by the President of the Senate to have been elected President of the United States would be inaugurated, even if it was necessary to resort to force; that after this had been communicated to Messrs. Randall L. Gibson, Randolph Tucker, L. Q. C. Lamar and other Southern Representatives, the gentlemen named helds a conference and subsequently informed Mr. Hewitt that they would be compelled to sustain that construction of the Constitution which invested the President of the Senate with the power to count the electoral votes and declare the result. It is also insinuated that when Mr. Hewitt offered on Wednesday last to give a chapter of unwritten history, he was about to tell of his interview with President Grant, and the subsequent determination of the Southern men named not to resist the President's interpretation of the Constitution. Mr. Hewitt is not in Washington, but he has telegraphed to a friend that he has denied the story referred to above in a letter which he has furnished for publication.

In addition to this, the reporters of The Sunday

Gazette have obtained the following written dentals from the Southern Representatives named: Mr. Tucker says: "It is true that I was at Mr. Hewitt's house, with many members of Congress, before the meeting of Congress in December, 1876. What was then and there disclosed by Mr. Hewitt, or said by any other person than myself, I do not feel at liberty to state. Whether a separate consultation between General Gibson, Mr. Lamar and myself occurred, I do not recall; nor do I know what General Gibson said to Mr. Hewitt. Whatever he said, he believed to be true. His honor and truth need no indorsement from me. But that I ever said I would be compelled to sustain the power of the President of the Senate to count the votes and declare the result, is utterly without any foundation. So far from that, I had examined the whole question before coming to Washington at that session, and came to the conclusions, which, without material modification, I sustained in a speech January 23, 1877, and especially on the point of the absolute want of all power in the President of the Senate to count the votes or declare the result. I never held. but always repudiated, that idea, as without any constitutional warrant whatever, and as wholly untenable in reason, or supported by the history of the Constitution. Mr. Hewitt came to my seat and asked the name of a witness who had testified before the committee on the electoral question. He said he meant the witness who had disposed of Confederate archives to the Government. I told him it was Pickett. That was all. I gave him no counsel unless perhaps, as I often do to others under like circumperhaps, as I often do to others under like circula-stances, "to keep cool." General Gibson and I, with others, were not in any conference about the maiter with Mr. Hewitt. I certainly did not advise him to withhold anything from his statement, nor did I know what he was going to say."

Mr. Gibson said of the reports: "There is not a word of truth in them. Mr. Hewitt did not inform

me, as I recollect, that President Grant held the comion that the presiding officer of the Scante had the constitutional right to count and declare the votes of the Electors for President, and that he had the constitutional right to count and declare the votes of the Electors for President, and that he had resolved to enforce by arms or in any manner this determination of the disputed election. My whole course, from beginning to end, was controlled by the conviction that the presiding officer of the Senate had only ministerial duties to perform under the Constitution, and could only count the votes when their validity was passed upon by the Congress. If any man in Washington, or elsewhere, was more anxious to see Samuel J. Tilden installed as President than I was, I did not hear of him. So nunch for that. I was engaged in the Ways and Means Committee Room during the discussion on Wednesday, and did not come into the House antii towards the close of it; nor did 4 know that Mr. Hewitt had spoken until allusion was made to his remarks by subsequent speakers. He did not on that occasion, nor has he since, consulted with me in company with Mr. Tucker, or separately, in relation to any matter."

te any matter."

Senator Lamar said: "The statement is without any foundation in fact. No such statement of General Grant's purpose was made by Mr. Hewitt in my presence. No such separate consultation, that I can recall, ever took place between Messrs. Gibson, Tucker and myself, and no such purpose on our part was expressed."

was expressed."

There is probably no unwritten history of events There is probably no unwritten history of events connected with the last Presidential campaign worth telling, unless it be perhaps in regard to the efforts of agents, or pretended agents, of Governor Tilden to purchase from the Louisiana Returning Board a report favorable to the Democrats. This lead, if industriously worked, may result in disclosures. No other is likely to. It should be said that none of the training that have been affect inst heavall, the surstories that have been affoat just beneath the surface of political gossip for the last year, connect Mr. Hewitt's name with any negotiation of this

A FRIEND OF THE POLICY NO LONGER. EUGENE HALE INTENDING TO CRITICISE IT SEVERE-LY IN A SPEECH NOW PREPARING.

BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.] Washington, Feb. 17.-Representative Eugene Hale, of Maine, who has been one of the closest of the President's friends, and a sincere believer in his policy, is preparing a speech to prove the failure of the pacification system, as demonstrated in Louisiana. While the speech will be personally kind toward the President, it will denounce in the severest terms the course of the Administration toward Louisiana, and will hold it responsible for the helpless condition of Anderson and the toward Louisiana, and will hold it responsible for the helpless condition of Anderson and the other members of the Returning Board. There is no doubt that Mr. Hale has ceased to believe in the wisdom of the Administration, and that he will speak very plainly. His speech will contain a complete history of the events in Louisiana since the Presidential election, and will give an epitome of the publications from time to time by the President's Iriends. He will also endeavor to show that the friends of the President have not kept their pledges, and possibly that the President himself has not. Considering Mr. Hale's former intimacy with the President, and his support of the "policy," this course is rather significant.

KELLOGG'S \$20,000 LOAN. THE CHICAGO STORY EXPLAINED-THE LOAN FOR

A BUSINESS PURPOSE. [BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

Washington, Feb. 17 .- So much has recently been said about a loan obtained by Senator Kellogg from the Union National Bank of Chicago, that the following explanation of the transaction given by Mr. C. T. Wheeler, president of that bank, may be of some interest. It will be seen that it does not conflict in any particular with the explanation given by Governor Kellogg himself. Mr. Wheeler says that the late W. F. Coolbaugh, neither on his own account, or on the bank account, advanced \$20,000 to Governor Kellogg, nor did Mr. C. B. Farwell indorse Governor Kellogg's note to that amount. The affair was simply an ordinary business transaction. Governor Kellogg last Fall made application at the bank (Mr. Coolbaugh Professor Smith says, in reterence to the geographical location of the points by Mr. David Rittenhouse, of Penning Country Mr. David Rittenhouse, of Penning Country

being absent in Europe at the time) for an individual loan of \$20,000 for ninety days. Good and satisfactory collaterals being tendered, the bank loaned him the money, which has since been fully repaid. It was not a loan in behalf of the State of Louisiana, nor had it anything to do with the political imbroglio in that State, but was a private business transaction, for an exclusively and legitimately business transaction.

SUFFRAGE IN WASHINGTON. THE IDEA BEING AGITATED-BUSINESS MEN NOT IN FAVOR OF IT.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.] WASHINGTON, Feb. 17 .- The question of suffrage in the District of Columbia is being again agitated. It is favored by the old ring and by a few others. The Brening Star, which is at the head of the opposition, has sent its reporter to most of the business men in town, and yesterday it printed over five columns of the names of men and their answers to the question whether or not they favored the restora-tion of suffrage. Not mere than one in twenty of the business men visited were in favor of the scheme. Most of the answers were, "We've had enough of it."

NOT ENOUGH MONEY TO PAY THE NAVY. ONE RESULT OF A POLICY ON THE PART OF CON-GRESS TO APPROPRIATE LESS ALL AROUND THAN

IBY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE. WASHINGTON, Feb. 17 .- More than a month ago the Secretary of the Navy submitted to the House Committee on Appropriations the following exhibit of the present condition of the fund for the pay of the navy: The balance on hand January 1, 1878, was \$2,227,407 88. The estimated amount in the hands of disbursing officers on that day was \$364,-000. The amount paid out from the pay of the navy on account of other appropriations, to be returned in the settlement of accounts in the Treasury, was \$293,000. The total amount estimated on hand was \$2,884,407 88, and the amount actually required to pay the officers and men for six months ending June 30, 1878, \$3,650,000; leaving a deficiency of \$765,592 12.

The Secretary says that no provision is included in this estimate for the amounts due the enlisted men of the Navy, who always have a certain amount withheld, in proportion to their good behavior, which amount could not be ascertained, as the accounts were not in for the fourth quarter. He also shows that a margin for a working balance should be allowed on account of the fact that many of the naval paymasters are stationed in distant parts of the world. The exigencies of the service require frequent changes of vessels from one station to another, and the exact amounts needed for the payment of officers and men and for the purchase of supplies cannot be exactly calculated in advance.

He therefore recommends that Congress appropriate \$1,000,000 for the residue of the fiscal year 1878, with the provision that the excess shall revert to the surplus fund of the Treasury. After paying the deficiencies which had accumulated from former years from the total appropriation made by the last Congress for the current fiscal year, there remains a deficiency in the pay of the navy of \$765,592 12, which Congress must now provide for, or the officers and men must wait until next July for their pay. In a late communication to the same committee, the Secretary of the Navy said that the appropriation of \$85,000 for the pay of clerks at the several mavy yards would be exhausted at the end of January, and he asks that an appropriation of \$81, 627 28 be made for the pay of the "civil establishment" at the several yards for the remainder of the present fiscal year. He furthermore savs that after conferring with the heads of the several bureaus of his department and considering the matter carefully, he is of the opinion that it would be inexpedient at present to diminish the clerical force in the yards.

HOWGATE'S POLAR COLONY. PRENCH GEOGRAPHERS GREATLY INTERESTED IN THE PLAN-A LETTER TO HOWGATE.

INT TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.! WASHINGTON, Feb. 17.—The following letter was received in this city, yesterday, from Paris, and will show the lively interest felt by the scientific men of France in the peculiar scheme of Captain Howgate for obtaining information about the Polar

No. 3 CHRISTING St., PARIS, Jan. 31, 1878. S Captain H. W. Howgate, United States Army, Washing-

ton, B. C.:

The Geographical Society, of Paris, watches with the Rychest interest the efforts which have been made in the United States to organize a colony in the Polar regions of the North, and it will commend every resolution of Congress favorable to the project in which you have taken the initiative, and which, thanks to the aid he made, it will hasten the geographical conquest of the Palar regions. The Seciety follows, with its most sympathizing wishes, Captain Tyson, in the preliminary expedition with which you have charged him; and its good wishes will likewise he yours the day when, at the head of the main expedition, you have profiled from the results obtained by the commander of the Fiorence and his brave fellow voyagers. In thanking you for the active part you have taken in the preparation of this Polar campaign, we pray you, sir, to be pleased to receive the expression of our most distinguished consideration.

C. Du Quantificates.

C. De Quarrarages,
President of the Central Commission, Member of the

Institute. DE LA RONGIERE LE NOURY,
President of the Society, Vice-Admiral and Senator.
General Socretary.

THE FRENCH STATUE OF LIBERTY. POSTMASTERS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY TO RE-CEIVE SUBSCRIPTIONS. [GENERAL PRESS DISPATCH.]

WASHINGTON, Feb. 17 .- Mr. Nathan Appleton, of Beston, a member of the Franco-American Union, the central committee at Paris, composed of Frenchmen and Americans, which has charge of the work concerning the colossal statue of "Liberty Eulightening the World," by the sculptor Bartheldi, for the harbor of New-York, has written a letter to the Postmaster-General, asking that postmasters throughout the United States might be authorized to receive and hold subscriptions for the pedestal, to receive and hold subscriptions for the pedestai, which is to be farmished by the American people. In reply, he has been informed that the committee in charge of this international work can make such arrangements with postmasters as will enable them to accomplish the object they have in view. A comprehensive system for obtaining subscriptions toward America's share in this great monument of art and good feeling between the two Republics is thus assured.

THE FORTY-SECOND PARALLEL. NEW SURVEY OF THE SOUTHERN BOUNDARY OF NEW-YORK SHOWS THE ACCURACY OF AN OLD

IBY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.1

Washington, Feb. 17. - Professor Edwin Smith, Sub-Assistant of the Coast Survey, who was de-tailed at the request of the New-York and Pennsylvania Boundary Commission, to perform the necessary astro nomical work in connection with the establishment of the correct line between those two States, and Mr. J. B. Baylor, an aid in the United States Coast Survey, have made their report of general field operations. The Commission had requested that the geographical posi-tion of four points on the boundary between the two States should be established. To accomplish this the following observations were

made: First, at Station Travis, eastern extremity of the boundary for latitude thirty-seven observations of ten pairs of stars on five nights; for longitude, forty-five observations of twenty pairs of stars on four nights; for time, signals were exchanged with Washington on three nights. Second, at Station Clarke, one mile east of the western extremity of the boundry, forty-three observations of ten pairs of stars on five nights were made for latitude; ond one set of observations of Polaris for value of micrometer. Third, at Station Burt, south of Wellsburg, New-York, for latitude, fifty-one observations of fifteen pairs of stars were made on six nights; for longitude, fifty observations of twenty-three on seven nights. For time, signals were exchanged with Washington on two nights. Fourth, at Station Finn, near Great Bend, Pennsylvania, forty-seven observa tions of twelve pairs of stars on five nights were made

sylvania, about 1784, and comparing the results then obtained with those secured by himself last Summer, that the observations at Station Travis showed the forty-second parallel to be about 300 feet south of the present boundary. At Station Clarke it was about 125 feet south of the boundary. At Station Burt it was about 800 feet south of the boundary, and at Station Finn, about 350 feet north of the boundary. The observations of Professor Smith have been made with the latest and most unproved natronomical instruments, and the smallness of the errors discovered shows that Entenhouse's survey was made with wonderful skill and accuracy.

WILL THERE BE ANY EXBIBITION ? A PROBABILITY OF ITS INDEFINITE POSTPONEMENT.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.] WASHINGTON, Feb. 17 .- A report is in circulation in Washington to-night that the Paris Exhibition will be indefinitely postponed if war is declared between England and Russia. It is said that the departure of the Supply, which was to have sailed on Wednesday, has been postponed until definite information on the subject can be obtained.

FARM PRODUCTS AT PARIS. ONLY A MONTH LEFT FOR ARRANGING THE AMERI-CAN AGRICULTURAL EXHIBIT - AN OFFICIAL

[GENERAL PRESS DISPATCH.] Washington, Feb. 17 .- The Commissioner of Agriculture has published a circular, in which he says that in pursuance of the authority vested in him by act of Congress, he has undertaken to collect and prepare, as far as practicable and with as little delay as possible, suitable specimens of the agricultural productions of the several States and Territories of the Union for exhibition at the Paris Exhibition. He therefore proposes to accept, from any source, specimens of native fertilizing materials, of vegetable products of every description, capable of ready preservation and exhibition, and of materials manufactured from such products. They will include intermediate products of the methods of manufacture, which may be so arranged as to show, as lar as possible, by means of these, the processes involved. The classification of materials adopted by the Department is

as follows:

First—Native fertilizing materials.

Second—Raw products of the States and Territories, to be arranged with special reference to the locality of growth or production.

Third—Materials, raw and manufactured, to be especially arranged to illustrate the method: of utilization and manufacture of agricultural products.

Fourth—Plans of methods of farming, irrigation, fruit culture, etc.

Fourth—Plans of methods of farming, irrigation, fruit culture, etc.

13th—Working models of machinery and apparatus employed in the utilization of agricultural products. Expenses of transportation to Washington must be prepaid by contributors, but for packages the weight of which will not exceed the initial allowed by law for mailable matter (four pounds), the department will furnish, on application, postage to prepay expense of transmission through the mails. After the arrival of goods at this point, the department will take entire charge of them until their returns to this country. The Exposition will be opened May 1, and it is, therefore, necessary that all material for exhibition shall be delivered here before March 3. Persons desiring to contribute material should, therefore, communicate the fact at once, in order to avoid further delay.

The sloop of war Wyoming will positively leave Washington March 15 with the Government exhibits.

CUERENT TOPICS AT THE CARITAL. HINTS AS TO TRADE WITH GERMANY.

Washisotox, Feb. 17, 1878.
The United States Consul at Sonneberg Germany lies in American manufacturers endeavoring to make haste too fast by foreign a market for their wares. If old established houses in Germany, with every facilthe wares in which they deal, the American merchant is not likely to better matters by attempting to force a trade by putting his articles directly into the hands of petty German dealers. It is only through existing channels of wholesale trade. Mr. Winser, thinks, that a prightable and enduring business can be built up. It is hard to introduce novelites in Germany; and when, after months of patient lubor, the wide-reaching orizantzation of a great wholesale house at last creates a demand for some forcing naticle of antionisted ment, it flaus the trade taken out of its hands by the impatient efforts of the manufacturer to sell his wares direct for he gry retailer. The manufacturer losses an effective ally, and his trade, after a few menths of apparent improvement, dies of over weaking. American Buckers, tee, is defective. Bucket of large sire, of heavy plauks maled together, add greatly to the cost of freight, and are exposed to mare chances of breakage. In France and Germany boxes are made smaller, of poplar wood, dovelathed and with from lands. The eattenwood tree of our Southern States high the formany is also often a drawback to the introduction of novelities.

A LARICE EXPORT OF PROVISIONS.

Dr. Edward Young, Chief of the Bureau of Statistics, reports that the exports of provisions from the principal ports during the month of January were as

follows:

From New-York, \$9,269,131; Boston, \$1,178,023; Baltimore, \$571,423; Portland, \$152,082.

From New-York the exports consisted of 51,844,879 lbs, of hams and bacon; 2,974,540 lbs, of fresh, and 2,752,576 lbs, of ani beef; 4,389,424 lbs, of pork; 33,278,412 lbs, of lard; 4,481,150 lbs, of tallow; 5,893, 010 lbs, of cheese, and 506,062 lbs, of butter.

THE HELLENIC REVOLT SPREADING.

A MUCH NEEDED LOCAL UNDERTAKING The sewer and drainage questions in this

city and Georgetown, which have caused so much perplexity, are likely to receive an overbauling at an early day. Viewed as a purely sanitary measure the investi-gation cannot take place too soon. A bill has been intro-duced in the House to create a commission for this purpose, consisting of Generals Q. A. Gilmore and G. K. Warren and Mr. Edward Clark, who are to report to Congress a complete plan for a system of sewers and drains for both eithes, with the estimated cost thereof. The comboin city, with the calmand cost torreor. Income sion is also to submit a comprehensive project for a viver front, and the recisionation of the marshes being Washington City, and for the improvement of thomas layer within the limits of the District of Co

GENERAL FOREIGN NEWS.

TWO BRITISH WARS IN PROGRESS.

LONDON, Feb. 17, 1878.

Advices from Cape Town to January 29, say: "There have been numerous encounters between the volunteers and insurgent Kaffirs during the last week, in all of which the Kaffirs were defeated, many of them being killed and wounded." Another dispatch says that the Kaffir news is unsatisfactory; that the Tambook-ies have revolted, and that it is feared the Tembus will CALCUTTA, Feb. 17, 1878.

Hostilities with the Jowakis have been resum force of British cavalry, numbering 250 men, defeated the enemy vesterday, killing six of them, including one leader. Six of the English troops were wounded. Three Jowaki leaders were captured.

CUBANS STILL FOR WAR. REPORTS OF PEACE OVERTURES TO THE SPANIARDS

DENIED. Several prominent Cuban residents of this city were asked for information, yesterday, with refer ence to a Havana dispatch reporting that proposals of surrender had been made by the Cuban Central Junta to General Martinez Campos, and that an early restoration of peace and order is expected on the island. One Cuban gentleman said that the patriots had long ago resolved to conquer their independence of die in the attempt, and that they would not treat for peace under any other conditions. Two Gubans who had undertaken to negotiate between the Spaniards and Gubans were hanged by the latter. As for the Spanish offer of liberty to negroes in the Guban lines, they were already free, while those in Spanish territory were still in bondage, and the result of such an offer would be an immigration of Spanish negroes into Guban territory.

Mr. Quinteros, Editor of La Verdai, said that the Havana dispatch was undoubtedly a trick of the Spanish authorities in Cuba to counteract whatever influence had been brought to bear upon the Congressional committee by a delegation of Cubans who were well received and had a hearing before the countifiee. General Sanguilly, a member of this delegation, said that whatever proposals the Spaniards might make, none would be accepted by the Gubans except those on the basis of independence. In fact, the Cuban Government had issued strict orders not to receive any Spanish commission within Guban lines unless complete independence was offered. Three months ago, four Cubans were sent by the Spaniards to the Cubans, promising them peace upon certain conditions, but not offering independence. The Cubans thereapon hung two of the commissioners, Castellano and Verona, they being in the Cuban service, while the other two, Bello and Santistelian, also in the Cubans service, escaped. The Cubans knew what Spanish premises were worth, and placed no die in the attempt, and that they would not treat for ban, also in the Cuban service, escaped. The Cubans knew what Spanish premises were worth, and placed no confidence whatever in them. Licutenant-Colonel Fyancisco Estrada, of the Cuban army, was recently taken

THE PAPAL ELECTION. ROME, Feb. 17, 1878.

A majority of the Cardinals have agreed to hasten the conclave and elect a Pope in four or five days.

LONDON, Monday, Feb. 18, 1878.

A Reuter telegram from Rome says: "Cardinals Manning and de Falloux have endeavored to bring about an arrangement by which all the foreign cardi about an arrangement by which all the foreign cardinals shall vote manimously in the Concluye. The cens-himation has failed in consequence of the Austrian Car-dinals refuring adhesion. The Ultramontane Cardinals however, are working actively to obtain the election of one of their party. It is stated that pligrimages on a large scale to Rome are preparing."

THE ORIENTAL STRIFE.

A EUROPEAN CONGRESS TO BE HELD. THE UNITED STATES TO BE INVITED TO SEND A REPRESENTATIVE-FIGHTING RENEWED IN

It has been decided that the European Congress shall meet at Baden-Baden. Russia has proposed that the United States shall be represented thereat. England is disposed to acquiesce, but wishes that Greece shall also take part in the Congress. The

British fleet has withdrawn to Mundania Bay, forty miles south of Constantinople. It is expected that the Grand Duke Nicholas will visit Constantinople, as the guest of the Sultan. The Russians will refrain from occupying Gallipoli. More fighting is reported from

AFFAIRS ON THE BOSPHORUS. THE BRITISH FLEET GONE SOUTHWARD-THE GRAND DUKE NICHOLAS TO ENTER CONSTANTINOPLE.

LONDON, Feb. 17, 1878. It appears from a Constantinople telegram that the Grand Duke Nicholas is about to enter Constantinople with a portion of his army, but will go there as a guest of the Sultan and friend of the Nation, with the consent of the Sultan. The Russians consider that this will give England no cause for war, especially as her ships are near the capital against e express wish of the Sultan and the Porte. A Times telegram, dated Tchataldja (about thirty miles from Constantinople), Tuesday, says: "In the Russian camp a renewal of hostilities is discussed as more probable than peace, and every measure is being adopted to consolidate the Russian advance. The entrance of the British fleet into the Dardanelles before the conclusion of the armistice would have been answered, it is unhesitatingly said, by a Russian declaration of war, but whether would now be the case is doubtful War with England would be very popular with the

War with England would be very popular with the army, though the officers speak of it gravely as a terrible struggle. In this state of feeling, if we have to begin again, say the Russian officers, nothing could save Constantinople from us, and we would not leave one stone upon another."

The British fleet has been withdrawn to Mudania Bay, forty miles south of Constantinople. This movement is attributed to a desire on the part of England to facilitate negotiations to prevent the entry of the Russians.

The Russian troops have received orders from St. Petersburg not to occupy Galliped.

Petersburg not to occupy Gallipeli.

The Turkish squadron arrived at Constantinople yesterday, bringing stores and torpedoes from Sulina, which has been evacuated.

THE AGITATION IN ENGLAND. TWO LARGE NEUTRALITY MEETINGS TO BE HELD. LONDON, Feb. 17, 1878. A great public meeting, in favor of neu-

trality and the thorough independence of the provinces which have been freed from Turkish oppression, is to be held here on the 25th inst. Mr. Gladstone, John Bright, James Stansfeld, Anthony J. Mandella and older members of Parliament will attend it. A workmen's mass-meeting, with the state objects, is also called for Sunday-next, in Hyde Park.

The Times's leading editorial article, yesterday, was very pacific in tone. It said: "It will be due to some gratuitous mismanagement if the relative position of England and Russia, near Constantinople, leads to any be trusted to net with combined moderation and firm-ness. If the Russians are reasonably prudent there is no reason why the Powers should not enter peacefully into the conference." serious misunderstanding. Our own Government may

A EUROPEAN CONGRESS TO BE HELD. VIENNA, Feb. 17, 1878.

According to intelligence from a trustworthy source, a congress, not a conference, is certain. It will be held at Baden-Baden, which place Austria has proposed. The Coas and Saltan are actively has proposed. The Coas and Sultan are actively exchanging personal friendly dispatches. It is expected peace will be signed by the time the congress meets, namely, two or three weeks hence.

GERMANY FRIENDLY TO RUSSIA.

A special dispatch to The Times, from Berlin, says: "Not only is it unlik-ly that Germany will andertake the part of arbiter by declaring against any power attempting to interfere with Russia, but the in-

The Thessalian insurgents took Platana on Friday. It is supposed that they will not be able to hold it. A body of Turkish reinforcements from Armyros it. A body of tura-sa remove-the was repulsed. Hostilities are breaking out in all the districts of Crete. The insurgents are taking possession of the block-houses and strongholds under the flag of union with Greece. Seven hundred Greek volunteers crossed the fronther on Thursday, and a considerable number left Piraus last evening for Lamia.

THE ANGLO-RUSSIAN CRISIS.

INCIDENTS OF THE GREAT DEBATE-MR. GLADSTONE DEEMED TOO CONCILIATORY-PERSONALITIES BANDIED-THE COMMITTON AT THE REPORTED OCCUPATION OF CONSTANTINOPLE.
[FROM THE ELECTION CORRESPONDENT OF THE TRIBUNE

LONDON, I'eb. 7 .- Another week of sensations, of sensations coming in quick succession, and some of them vivid enough to set tingling the most jaded nerves. To begin with, there was the great debate. The power of what practical men call mere talk is great enough to occupy men's minds to the exclusion, for the moment, of anxiety touching the thing talked about. A great speech by Mr. Gladstone is as much an event in London as a great battle in Roumelia. Never was the House fuller, never the company more brilliant than on Monday night. It is reckoned a great occasion when the Prince of Wales favors the Commons with his presence, but on Monday the Princess also came down, and half a dozen royalties beside, while the throng of Peers and distinguished strangers was such as to drive the Sergeant-at-arms to his wits' end. I cannot undertake to give even the briefest abstract of Mr. Gladstone's speech, or any other. In these hurried times impressions are all one can record. The impression roduced by Mr. Gladstone was all he could wish, so far as oratory goes, but less than might be wished in point of dignity and judgment. His own friends say he overdid the conciliatory business. He ought, at least, they urge, to have devoted fifteen minutes to a vindication of his own position of publicly avowed hostility to the Government. The Oxford speech, last week, was fresh in men's memories. To ignore and forget what he had said there was to lay himself open to Mr. Hardy's taunt that he had been bold outside the House and timid inside; speaking inside with bated breath and whispering humbleness. He ought also to have known-he had means of knowing-that the Government would accept no overtures, least of all from him, the most hated of all their opponents. The mere fact that Mr. Hardy was to be put up to reply was enough to show the temper of the Treasury Bench. Mr. Hardy is not only War Minister, but the most warlike mem-ber of the Government next after Lord Beaconsfield, and individually a man who enjoys the smell of gunpowder. He is perhaps the noisiest speaker in the House; full of sound and fury-I break off the quotation there out of respect to constituted authorities. His speech was one continual rattle of musketry, and it was not his fault if his guns were not shotted or his aim wide. His intellectual powers are not in proportion to his physical, and his invective against Mr. Gladstone was more violent than vigorous. It suited the Tories equally well, or better. They cheered him with that volume of vocal power in which they are unrivalled; and which counts for much with a party drilled to cheer whenever the signal is given. At a time like this, when passions are at white heat, it counts for more than

SERIOUS CHARGE AGAINST A PHYSICIAN. Next evening, Tuesday, came a scene between Mr. Hardy and Mr. Trevelyan, whom Mr. Hardy had accused of wanting truthfulness and courage-truthfulness because he had said to his constituents that

Lord Beaconsfield desired war, and courage because he dared not repeat the charge in the House. There was a wrangle over this for an hour and a-half, ending with mutual explanations and a withdrawal by Mr. Hardy of the offensive imputations. But personalities have been the rule of the whole debate. Everybody has been personal, and forcible-feeble people like Mr. Chaplin and Sir Drummond Wolff, devoted the greater part of their speeches to attacks on Mr. Gladstone, at a moment when, on their own theory, the safety of the Empire is in question. In very different style was the speech of Sir William Harcourt on Tuesday; for which statesmanlike is not too strong a word, much as it is abused by too frequent use in these eager days. There was some skirmishing in this, too, as in other speeches; hard hits which rolled over one or two of the enemy, but it was in the main a most serious, carnest declaration of policy; a consideration from an independent point of view of the whole situation; fully worthy of the orator's reputation and authority in international diffairs. Able and pointed also was Sir Charles Dilke's speech, and Lord Edmund Fitzmaurice's not less so. These excepted, the debate of Tuesday did little to clear men's minds of the confusion in which the advocates of war are ceaselessly endeavoring to involve them.

But more significant things have since happened. in question. In very different style was the speech

But more significant things have since happened. The public meetings continue on both sides. So ong as they were all Liberal, the Tories denounced them as meaningless, as mere agitations, and that of an unpatriotic kind. You see the difference. Liberal agitation is wicked, but Tory agitation is righteous. Encouraged by their success in capturing the Cannon-st, and other meetings of their opponents, the Tory managers have now organized some of their own, in London and elsewhere. They held one last night in the home of Evangelical piety, Exeter Hall itself, whose walls listened to cries and sounds of a novel kind. Sir Robert Peel was among
the speakers, and thought it a fit occasion for proving that a Tory of great position and wealth could
be as rank a demagogue as the veriest Radical that
ever sponted. The workingmen are with us, cried
Sir Robert; they at any rate, for they know that
it is not out of their pockets the money we are going
to spend will come. The taxes will fall on the upper
classes. I won't stop to comment on this, but it will
do to keep in mind against the next Tory demonstration of the dangers of Democracy springing from the
power of the peor majority to vote taxes which the
rich minority must pay.

Graver, much graver than all these are the two
pieces of news which have agitated London to-day: sounds of a novel kind. Sir Robert Peel was among

pieces of news which have agitated London to-day:

the reported entry of the Russians into Constanticople, and the reported conversation in this morning's Daily News between its correspondent at Adrianople and Server Pasha, the Turkish Minister for Foreign Affairs and one of the envoys sent to negotiate the armistice. It is idle to discuss probabilities, but it is useful to register the condition of mind in which the public received the story of this last Russian advance, which down to this moment lacks confirmation, but is perfectly consistent with the theory of a private agreement, amounting almost to an alliance, lately concluded at Adrianople between Russia and urkey-a theory which itself derives support from the language of Server Pasha. It is not too much to say that the Anti-Russian party in London heard it with rage and with delight; rage at findng Turkey had, after all their coquetting, slipped through their fingers; delight at getting one more chance to rush the country into war. Whispers of it got into circulation last night; one paper proclaimed it this morning in harguage of the most reckless kind; another hinted at it more soberly; the rest were left in the derk, all the Liberal journals meinaled, though the Liberal leaders head the tale last night. Business men had information of their own, as usual, and by noon to-day a pasi; had set in on the Shock Exchange. Consols feli I per cent, Russians twice that and nore; and for two hours or so it seemed as if another Black Monday might be looked for; then the squall blew over. Ministers were not less alert. Lord Salisbury was early closeted with Lord Beaconstield, and summers was earl Hastily round for a Carbinet Council at the Prime Minister's house. Be the news true or false, it has had its field day; seldom or never during the last eighteen months has there been greater excitement. At this hour there is a general rush to the Houses of Parliament, where Ministerial statements are expected, of which you will have the benefit to morrow morning. The Liberal leaders, also, were convoked by Lord Granville, and held a consultation in Carlion liouse Terrace. It is a sign of the feverishness of the times that before they had met the result of their deliberations was announced by one of the news agencies; falsely, of course, whether the guess prove accurate or not.

Had there been no Constantinople story, Ministers might well have been summoned to consider what chance to rush the country into war. Whispers of

might well have been summoned to consider what notice should be taken of Server Pasha's declarations. You have read them, no doubt, and you know that they amount to nothing less than an consultion of treachery and deceit against Mr Layard, to some extent against Lord Beaconsfield also; with a plain infimation that Turkey has block. At half-past 7 oclock, they had reached the finally east in her lot with Russia. That Server Pasha has actually held the language attributed to him I have no doubt whatever; knowing, as I do, who the correspondent is who reported it-a man incapable of misrepresentation, and far too clearheaded and cool to be misled or to exaggerate. There can be no doubt that the Turkish Foreign Minister has sent a message to England; has said openly what well-informed people have for months been saying privately; has admitted and asserted that Turkey has all along been privately encouraged by England-by the Euglish Ambassador and Euglish Prime Minister, at any rate—to prolong a honeless resistance; and has finally, in despair, and perhaps also in revenge, thrown herself into the arms of Russia, or stands ready to do so, if Server's advice be taken. This is quite enough to rouse Parliament and the country. The story must be met; will doubtless be denied with due indignation; but since Server declares he has proofs, and will publish them, the mere denial of the accused will not go for much. I have met a Tory or two since the narrative was published, and if their anger about it be any test, and it no disproof be at hand, it is destined to damage the Government more than anything that has happened. For which, and other reasons, the Tory efforts to inflame the already strong anti-Russian feeling are redoubled, and the war fever is passing once more, for the fifth or sixth time, through an acute stage; with the usual accompaniments of panic and distress.

G. W. S. the English Ambassador and English Prime Minis

GENERAL EWING ON THE BLAND BILL. IBY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE. COLUMBUS, O., Feb. 17 .- The Hon. Thomas Ewing, member of Congress from this district, arrived here last night from his home, where he has been spendng a few days. The General is as enthusiastic upon the Il absorbing subject of silver remonetization as he is for greenbacks equal to the demand of trade. He is most emphatically opposed to the Senate amendments to the Biand Silver Bill, which were adopted by that to the Biand Silver Bill, which were adopted by that body yesterday, and asserts in the most positive maner that they shall not receive the concurrence of the House if he can possibly prevent it. The provision limiting the coluage of silver heighlight with all the power at his command. He does not believe the House will sanction anything short of free, unlimited coinage of silver. He is also opposed to the amendment providing for the issuing of certificates of deposit to depositors of silver only to be receivable for all public dues. He expresses the opinion that the President will not dare to veto the Bland bill, in opposition to the will of the great majority of the people; but should he do so, the General believes that the silver men in either branch of Congress are strong enough to override the objections by the requisite two thirds majority.

General Ewing returned to Washington this afternoon.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., Feb. 17 .-- The new fire-

proof library building of Brown University, the gift chiefly of the late John Carter Brown, was dedicated, vesterday, with brief ceremopies. The Hon. Rowland Hazard, chairman of the Building Committee, made an address and delivered the keys to President Robinson; who made a speech in response, and was followed by Mayor Doyle. The building was afterward thrown open for public inspection. It has present accommodations for 100,000 volumes and room for 50,000 additional.

ACCIDENT TO THE STEAMER OLD COLONY. PROVIDENCE, R. I., Feb. 17.-The steamer old Colony, from New-York for Fall River, about 1 Old Colony, from Sec. 1018 to 102 to 200 clock this morning, when between Watch Hill and Point Judith, broke her walking beam. Great injury was done to the machinery, but no person was hust. The stea mer was towed into Newport by the steamer City of Fitchburg. The damage done to the Old Colony is estimated at from \$50,000 to \$75,000.

Boston, Feb. 17 .- Dr. E. E. Spencer, of Cambridge, was arrested yesterday upon an indictment charging man-laughter in causing the death of Mrs. Catharine McLean, he having taken charge of and then deserted her in a critical condition.

NEARLY A MILLION LOST.

A GREAT FIRE ON THE WEST SIDE.

AN IMMENSE FACTORY BUILDING AND TWO CHURCHES DESTROYED-THE LOSS VARIOUSLY ESTIMATED AT FROM \$600,000 TO \$800,000-A STILL GREATER CONFLAGRATION PREVENTED WITH MUCH DIFFICULTY.

The immense six-story structure known the Excelsior Buildings - built by James H. Ingersoll-together with the West Twenty-third Street Presbyterian and the Third Reformed Presbyterian Churches-all in West Twenty-third-st.-were totally destroyed by fire last night. The total loss is estimated at from \$600,000 to \$800,000. The insurance is believed to be very heavy, but no estimate could be obtained last evening. All of the property of the 8th Regiment was destroyed, together with their Armory. The origin of the fire is unknown. The flames spread with great rapidity.

START AND PROGRESS OF THE FLAMES.

SPEEDY DESTRUCTION OF THE EXCELSIOR BUILD-INGS-RESISTLESS ADVANCE OF THE FIRE THROUGH THE WHOLE STRUCTURE-BOW THE CHURCHES WERE INVOLVED.

It was just five minutes after seven o'clock, last night, when Roundsman Golden, of the Seventeenth Precinct, saw a sheet of flames burst from the top window of the rear of the building No. 216 West Twenty-third-st. At that moment the street was filled with people walking out for pleasure or on their way to church. The officer rushed to the corner of Eighth-ave., and sent an alarm. Upon returning he found that the flames had spread rapidly, and that the entire row of buildings extending from No. 216 to No. 266, on West Twenty-third-st., and known as the Excelsor Buildings, was on fire. The neighboring fire companies were soon on the spot, and a second and third alarm were sent out in quick succession. By the time the first engine was playing its stream on the fire, all the six parts making up the immense building were crackling from the basement to the sixth floor. President King, of the Fire Commissioners, was among the persons who were early at the scene, and promptly sent out a general alarm, in response to which twenty-four engines arrived, and began to fight the fire from Seventh and Eighth-aves, and on Twentysecond and Twenty-third-sts.

In ten minutes after the fire burst out, the building seemed to be wrapt in flames. From the basement to the top floor, along the rear and front of the immense structure, the smoke rolled in dense volumes for a moment, and then gave way to great waves of fire, which suddenly bursting through the roof, leaped high into the air, lighting up the city for miles, and making the streets in the vicinity as

The first building of the series of buildings, No. 216, was senarated from the West Twenty-third Street Presbyterian Church, which was upon the east of it, by a small alley-way ten teet in width, which led to the study of the pastor of the church, The fire at the start had complete sway in No. 216, and rapidly spread through the wide archways, in the second, third and fourth stories of the entire block of six buildings. The sixth floor of the entire edifice was filled with the inflammable material of a furniture factory, as was also the fifth floor and the greater part of the first floor. The contents of these floors burned so rapidly that the firemen could gain no control over the flames, and directed their attention to protecting the Twenty-third Street Presbyterian Church on the east, the buildings in the rear and fronting on Twenty-second-st., and the Third Reformed Presbyterian Church, which was on the west, and separated by an alley twenty feet wide. The heat soon became so intense that it was necessary to turn streams of water on the row of four-story brick residences directly opposite the fire on Twenty-third-st. In twenty minutes from the time of the arrival of the engines, the firemen were unable to stay the progress of the flames, and the entire block of six buildings was given over to the

The rapidity of the advance of the flames surprised the firemen. From the first building, No. 216,

they spread to every story the entire length of the part of the buildings occupied by the 8th Regiment as an armory, and in an instant the noise of exploding cartridges was added to the roar of the conflagration. At 7:50, a tremendous explosion was heard, and instantly the eastern wall of the building No. 216 fell with a loud crash upon the roof of the adjoining church, crushing in a part of it and demolishing one of the turrets. The rear portion of the roof of the church soon caught fire, and the spectacle of six massive six-story buildings, and a large church in flames at once, was exceedingly impressive. As the fire spread throughout the extensive communicating floors of the sixth and fifth stories and along the first floor and basement, they were lit up with a ruddy glare. The other floors, especially the second and third-most of the second was unoccupied, and the third contained the offices of the 8th Regiment-were dark and gloomy, for some time being filled with smoke. The smoke soon gave way to fire, and at 8 o'clock the entire series of buildings was burning from end to end and from the basement far above the surrounding buildings. The roof had long before burned out, leaving the flames to burn with greater force, and entirely unrestrained from above. They towered far above the wasting structure, in enormous waves of fire, which leaped higher into the air and burned with the utmost fury. The heat at this time grew so great that the street in front of the burning building was deserted by the firemen and others. This step was taken none too soon, for the flames had eaten out the interior of the building, from No. 216 to No. 226, and to the rear wall. The three remaining walls, on the north, south, and west, stood tottering, and in instant danger of falling. The firemen kept as near as possible, and poured water on the building's on the north of Twenty-third-st., the front windows of some of which were eracking, and which were in great danger from pieces of burning timbers and from sparks. Just at 8:05 the wall of Nos. 216 and 218 fell, and ten minutes later the sixth, fifth and fourth story walls of Nos. 220, 222 and 224 came tumbling down, the sixth story wall into the street, and the rest falling inward. Immediately after the greater part of the south wall crashed down into the mass of fire with a lond noise, and was followed by the western wall, which fell upon the neighboring church structure, breaking it in and setting fire to it in several places.

After the walls had fallen, the fire bad full sway over its large territory, and had it not been for the prompt action of the firemen the buildings on all sides would have caught fire, and added to the great configration. The two church structures caught fire before 8 o'clock, but the flames were confined to the interior of the buildings and did not appear much outside. When the tower of the West Twenty-third Street Presbyterian Church caught fire, at 8 20, however, a spiral sheet of flame darted up its entire length, forming a beautiful picture, and adding to the weirdness as well as grandeur of the entire conflagration. Soon after the walls had fallen, the firemen again gained a foothold in West Twentythird-st., and prevented any further spread of the fire. They also brought a large of streams of water to bear on the two churches, and although it was impossible to save these buildings, the fire was controlled, and arrested at the brown-stone dwellings on each side. At 9 o'clock the fire was entirely within bounds, but the material of the large factory building furnished food for the